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centuries before him. The author of this pamphlet searches the writings of Occam anew to test this criticism. He finds surface resemblances between the views of the two men on these and kindred subjects, but he finds also such essential differences as forbid us to see in Luther a disciple of Occam.—FRANKLIN JOHNSON.

*Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam.* By Ephraim Emerton, Ph.D., Winn Professor of Ecclesiastical History in Harvard University. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1899; pp. xi + 460; \$1.50.) Professor S. M. Jackson is the editor of a series on the "Heroes of the Reformation." Only by a far stretch of the imagination could he include Erasmus in the series. In a list of the biggest cowards of the sixteenth century Erasmus would certainly stand at the head. He was doubtless the most brilliant and polished scholar of his age, but at his best he had only a sneaking sympathy with the Reformers, and at his worst he was an arrant poltroon. It is a talented, scholarly, learned, versatile, sensitive, conceited, grumbling, cowardly, unlovable man that Professor Emerton has tried to introduce to his readers. He has set himself no easy task, for his "hero" was a bundle of contradictions, inconsistencies, pettinesses, trivialities, sinuosities. How can one be certain of his ground when he is dealing with such a singular compound of wisdom and deceit—a craven, evasive character, who, when self is concerned, seems incapable of telling the truth? Perhaps it is a high enough meed of praise to say that Professor Emerton has given us the most "complete and satisfactory life of Erasmus" that has yet been written. His critical spirit and method guard him against taking the word of Erasmus at its face value, and constrain him "in each case to weigh the value of the text with the fullest reference to all the circumstances." He has thus avoided numerous errors into which other biographers have fallen.—ERI B. HULBERT.

*Der Johanniter- und der Deutsche Orden im Kampfe Ludwigs des Bayern mit der Kurie.* Von Julius von Pflugk-Harttung. (Leipzig: Duncker & Humblot, 1900; pp. xii + 261; M. 6.) Being himself a member of the order of the Knights of St. John, Herr von Pflugk-Harttung, already well known for his historical investigations, has naturally made his order the object of his studies, and has published a number of interesting papers and studies in the history of the order. In his latest work he has gone farther afield and added the German Order to his field of investigation. He has sought to determine the policy of these two

orders during the struggle which Ludwig the Bavarian waged with the pope. Incidentally he has given us a good deal of information about the orders and their condition in the fourteenth century. The question at issue between papacy and empire was political, involving (1) the political supremacy in the empire, and (2) the theories of state and church on which this political supremacy was based. The author gives a good analysis of the forces and resources of each of the contestants. Then follows a brief history of the origin and growth of the orders, with an account of their organization. The Knights of St. John on the continent were essentially French, and although the order flourished in Germany, it never became identified with the country or the people. Being thus detached from both nation and emperor, the members of the order, with few exceptions, remained neutral, and supported neither pope nor emperor. With the German Order the case was quite different. Opposed and abused in the Orient (1) because they were a rival of the Templars and of the Knights of St. John, and (2) because they were Germans (for the Germans were never popular with the crusaders), it was only natural that they should come to look upon themselves as the standard-bearers of their nation and of their nationality. Out of feelings of patriotism they could be counted on to support their king in a struggle with a foreign power. The studies of our author all show that this was the case. The German Order supported Ludwig, aiding him in word and in deed. The emperor well repaid them, bestowing on them many valuable gifts and privileges.—OLIVER J. THATCHER.

*A History of Lutheran Missions.* By Preston A. Laury. (Reading, Pa., and New York: Pilger Publishing House, 1899; pp. 266; \$1.25.) The notion that modern missions began with William Carey will be dissipated by reading the accounts in this volume of Lutheran missions in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Nobler missionaries never labored in India than the long line of precursors of Carey from Ziegenbalg to Schwartz. The preparations for the modern missionary movement were made in the Reformation period, and since that time a growing interest in the heathen world has characterized the Protestant church. The part the Lutherans have taken in this work of evangelization is succinctly described in Mr. Laury's volume.—ERI B. HULBERT.

*Joseph Glanvill: A Study in English Thought and Letters of the Seventeenth Century.* By Ferris Greenslet, Ph.D., Fellow in English in